

**ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION -
2008**

COMMITTEE STATEMENT

LB850

Hearing Date: January 22, 2008

Committee On: Education

Introducer(s): (Erdman)

Title: Change insurance coverage provisions for school board members

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:

Placed on General File with Amendments

Vote Results:

7 Yes Senators Adams, Ashford, Avery, Burling, Howard,
Kopplin, Raikes

0 No

1 Absent Senator Johnson

0 Present, not voting

Proponents:

Senator Philip Erdman
John A. Bonaiuto

Representing:

Introducer
Nebraska Association of School Boards

Opponents:

Herb Schimek

Representing:

Nebraska State Education Association

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or change:

Legislative Bill 850 would amend Section 79-502 which allows any Class I, II, III, IV, or VI school district to provide its members with insurance coverage for hospitalization, medical, surgical, accident, sickness, or term life insurance.

Section 79-502 would be amended to limit any such coverage so as not to cover spouses or dependents of board members.

The Legislative Bill would also amend Section 79-502 to require school district boards to pay the same proportion of the insurance premium for board members as is paid for permanent employees of the school district as well as require a quarterly report indicating which board members have elected such coverage and the cost to the district.

Explanation of amendments, if any:

Overview:

The Committee amendment would amend provisions of law that currently allow Class I, II, III, IV, and VI school districts and educational service units to provide insurance for board members. The committee amendment would permit school board members, educational service unit board members, and learning community coordinating council members the opportunity to purchase insurance at their own expense. Each entity would be required to make a quarterly report available for review by the public upon request.

Section by Section Summary:

The Committee amendment would strike the original sections of the bill and insert new sections.

Section 1 of the amendment would allow school board members from all classes of school districts to participate in the school district hospitalization, medical, surgical, accident, sickness, or term life insurance coverage or any one of more of such coverages. The board member electing such coverage would be responsible for the entire cost of the premiums.

A school board that opts to allow board members to participate in insurance coverage would be required to report the board members who have elected such coverage quarterly. The report would be required to be available for review by the public.

Section 2 of the amendment would create the same provision regarding insurance for learning community coordinating councils.

Section 3 of the amendment would amend **Section 79-1232** to create the same provision regarding insurance for educational service units.

Section 79-502 would be outright repealed.

Senator Ron Raikes, Chairperson